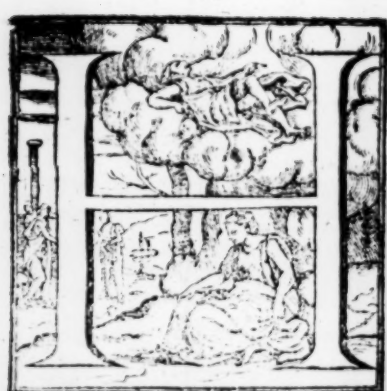




¶ By the King.



Having occasion at this time to deliberate vpon diuers great and weightie affaires highly tending to the continuance and further setting of the peaceable gouernment and safetie of this our Kingdome, whereof God hath giuen vs the charge, wee haue thought good, according to the laudable Custome of our Progenitors, to craue the aduice and assistance herein of our well affected Subjects, by calling a Parliament, to begin vpon the sixteenth day of January next; And though there were no more to be had in consideration, but the present face of Christendome, so miserably and dangerously distracted at this time, besides a number of other great and weightie affaires, that wee are to resolve vpon, wee haue more then sufficient reason to wish and desire, (if euer at any time, especially at this) that the Knights and Burgeses that shall serue in Parliament, be, according to the old Institutions, chosen of the grauest, ablest, and best affected mindes that may be found. And therefore out of the Care of the Common good, whereof themselves are also participant, wee doe hereby admonish all our louing Subjects that haue votes in the Elections, that Choise bee made of persons approoued for their sincerity in Religion, and not of any, that is noted either of superstitious blindnesse one way, or of turbulent humours another way, but of such as shall be found zealous and obedient children to this their Mother Church.

And as to the Knights of Shires, That they cast their eyes vpon the worthiest men, of all sortes of Knights and Gentlemen, that are Guides and Lights of their Countreies, of good experience, and great integritie, Men that leade an honest and exemplary life in their Countreies, doing vs good service therein, and no Bankrupts or discontented Persons that cannot fish but in troubled waters: And for the Burgeses, That they make choise of them that best vnderstand the State of their Countreys, Citties, or Boroughes, And where such may not be had within their Corporations, then of other graue and discreet men, fit to serue in so wortheie an Assembly. For wee may well foresee, how ill effects the bad choise of vnfit men may produce, if the House should bee supplied with Bankrupts and necessitous persons that may desire long Parliaments for their priuate protections, Or with young and vncperienced men that are not ripe and mature for so graue a Councell, Or with men of meane qualities in themselves, who may onely serue to applaud the opinion of others on whom they depend, Or yet with curious and wrangling Lawyers, who may seeke reputation by stirring needlesse questions: But we wish all our good Subjects so to vnderstand these our admonitions, as that wee no way meane to barre them of their lawfull freedome in election, according to the fundamentall lawes and laudable custome of this our Kingdome, and especially in the times of good and settled gouernment.

Giuen at Our Court at Theobaldes the sixth day of Nouember, in the eighteenth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Brittain, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

¶ Imprinted at London by Bonham Norton,
and Iohn Bill, Printers to the Kings most
Excellent Maiestie. 1620.